Substance Misuse & Coronavirus 19

Update 15 April 2020

NHS Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Policy & Guidance

Clinical guide for the management of people with alcohol dependence during the Corona virus pandemic

New emergency guidelines for clinical staff **NHS England**

Health & Behaviour

Alcohol does not protect against Covid-19: access should be restricted during lockdown

Increased consumption can exacerbate existing health issues & risk taking **WHO**

Are smokers (or vapers) more at risk for Covid-19?

Research suggests that smoking suppresses the immune system and is already a risk factor for influenza. **Scientific American**

Corona virus triggers shortage of illicit drugs

Experts concerned that heroin users will turn to more dangerous fentanyl **Guardian**

Is alcohol really "essential" during Covid-19?

With the UK seeing a surge in alcohol sales over the past few weeks, now would be a good time to emphasize public health advice on alcohol **BMJ Opinion**

Delivery of Services

Covid-19 and addiction treatment delivery

Oliver Standing talks about the response from the field **SSA Interview**

Covid-19 emergency brings new challenges for substance misuse

Frontline staff in the sector are responding to ensure continuity of care and that vulnerable clients are not placing addition strain on the NHS **Collective Voice**

Listen to the messages from the frontline

New issue of Drink and Drugs News counsels a clear focus on essential harm reduction principles and taking heed of what is, and what is not, working **DDN**

Mitigating and learning from the impact of Covid-19 infection on addictive disorders

The pandemic presents vast challenges, particularly to vulnerable populations. This editorial summarizes many of the issues and calls for a coordinated effort to address them **Addiction**